

## Report of the Faculty Senate Chair – September 6, 2017

Welcome and best wishes for the beginning of the 2017-18 academic year! It has been busy since our last meeting on July 5, 2017.

We begin this academic year with very difficult news. During the summer, two Faculty Senators unexpectedly passed away. We will hear memorium statements for our colleagues Susan Peacock, former chair of Part-Time Faculty Committee, and Ron Sahoo, former chair of the Committee on Committees and Credentials, as well as Richard Clover, former dean of SPHIS.

### **Faculty Senate Initiatives:**

- **Academic Excellence: Research, Scholarship & Creative Activity in the Classroom** – event in Spring 2018 highlighting the intersection of research & teaching and featuring UofL faculty and students (in collaboration with SGA)
- **Ad Hoc Committee on Best Practices in the Evaluation of Teaching** – seeking broad faculty representation from all units and CEHD faculty and others with expertise on the topic to identify current best practices and examine UofL’s policies. This committee would consult with associate deans, deans and others to gather input.

**COSFL (Committee of State Faculty Leaders):** COSFL meeting will be held at the conclusion of the 2017 Governor's Conference on Postsecondary Education on September 11-12 in Louisville; <http://cpe.ky.gov/calendar/index.php?eID=38>. The COSFL meeting is on Tuesday, September 12 at 2:00 p.m. Agenda items include recommendations for faculty representative on the CPE (3 names must be forwarded to the Governor) and the state pension system.

**Board of Trustees:** We had several board meetings and subcommittee meetings since July 7, 2017:

- **Board meetings** - July 20, August 10, August 26: regular meeting, special meeting regarding the forensic audit and next steps, and special meeting for RFP presentations from presidential search firms
- **Ad Hoc Committee on Nepotism and Tenure Policy** – July 12, August 6: reviewing UofL’s nepotism policy
- **Board Governance Subcommittee** – July 17: examining conflict of interest policies and best practices for boards, and conducting a small-scale confidential review of the interim president

**University:** As Chair I participate in a number of committees on behalf of the Faculty Senate, in addition to regular meetings with the President, the Provost and the Chief Operations Officer

- **Budget Advisory Committee** - The Provost's Budget Advisory Committee continues to meet weekly. The Faculty Senators serving on this committee include: Krista Wallace-Boaz (Chair, XC, Music), David Owen (P&B, XC), Pam Feldhoff (XC, HSC), and Saeed Jortani (HSC).

Current work of the BAC includes: (1) teams of 3 reviewing requests to hire and making recommendations to the Provost; (2) discussing values of the University that should drive budget planning for 2018-19.

- **Operational Savings Advisory Committee** – this newly formed committee is organized by Lee Smith with university-wide representation. David Owen and I serve on this committee.
- **Presidential Search Faculty Consultation Committee** – the Board constituency representatives attended an August 2 meeting to discuss the committee's expectations about the search process.
- **Starving The Beast movie & discussion** - August 24. Participated in a panel discussion with Emily Bingham - Historian & former UofL Trustee; Morgan McGarvey - Kentucky State Senate, 19th District; David Owen - Chair, Department of Philosophy; Vishnu Tirumala - President, SGA & Student Trustee